



BRITISH COLUMBIA
UTILITIES COMMISSION

ORDER
NUMBER G-31-03

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IN THE MATTER OF
the Utilities Commission Act, R.S.B.C. 1996, Chapter 473

and

An Application by Stargas Utilities Ltd.
for Approval of an Increase in Gas Tariff Rates

BEFORE: P. Ostergaard, Chair)
R.D. Deane, Commissioner) May 1, 2003
R.H. Hobbs, Commissioner)

O R D E R

WHEREAS:

- A. On April 22, 2003, Stargas Utilities Ltd. ("Stargas") applied to the Commission for approval to increase rates to all customers as a result of a natural gas rate pass-through from its supplier, Terasen Gas Inc. ("Terasen Gas"), effective April 1, 2003; and
- B. The increase of \$1.474/GJ is a result of increases to Terasen Gas' Delivery Charges, Gas Cost Recovery Charge and applicable riders and also includes the effect of Stargas' proposal to reduce its Unaccounted For Gas allowance from 5 percent to 1 percent; and
- C. The Commission has reviewed the application and finds that approval is required.

NOW THEREFORE the Commission orders as follows:

- 1. The Commission approves for Stargas an increase in the Gas Cost Recovery Charge of \$1.474/GJ from \$8.610/GJ to \$10.084/GJ effective April 1, 2003.
- 2. Stargas is to notify all customers of the increase in rates by way of a bill insert or bill message included with the next billing.

DATED at the City of Vancouver, in the Province of British Columbia, this *eight* day of May 2003.

BY ORDER

Original signed by:

Peter Ostergaard
Chair